

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Delete the abstract and replace it with the following:

A method for preparing thermally stable material of, silicon-containing titanium dioxide having a high specific surface area, wherein the method comprises, said method comprising the ~~reaction of~~ reacting titanium oxide or hydroxide ~~or titanium dioxide~~ with a silica sol, under conditions which prevent the coagulation of silica particles during the reaction ~~in said sol, to obtain silicon-containing titanium hydroxide or silicon-containing titanium dioxide, and in the case of silicon-containing titanium hydroxide, heat treating the same to obtain silicon-containing titanium dioxide.~~ The material is suitable for use as a catalyst.